

THE TOKEN HUNTER



A publication of the *National Utah Token Society*
6143 Rainy Lane, Murray, UT 84107

Dedicated to the collection, recording and preservation of tokens and medals

NEXT MEETING

HARRY CAMPBELL is the next guest speaker at the meeting to be held **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH**. Most of you already know who Mr. Campbell is.

he is considered the expert on tokens. There will be a slide show presentation, displays, and the infamous Harry Campbell books to be sold and autographed by Harry himself. The meeting begins at 7:15 PM.

President.....	John Sroka.....	262-8329
Vice President.....	Glen Sidwell...	673-1861
Treasurer.....	Mary Moulton...	964-2515
Secretary.....	Robin Sidwell..	
Wagonmasters.....	Bryan Moulton..	964-2515
	Eric Jameson...	482-6461
	Bill Turpela...	884-5595
Board Members.....	George Wilson..	250-7052
	Frank Sommer...	262-1085
	Bob Uzelac.....	375-2900
Editors.....	Ross & Laura...	262-2165
	Seely	

Any news, views or information you would like to share? Give someone a call. If you are interested in placing an ad, call Ross or Laura.



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

I think that the two major objectives of the club should be:

1. To help collectors find tokens.
2. To inform collectors as to rarities and values.

The first objective is accomplished very much in the same way as a coin club would:

1. We allow dealers to come to club meetings and show their wares.
2. We have bourse nights in which collectors may trade or auction items.
3. Once a year we have a coin and token show.

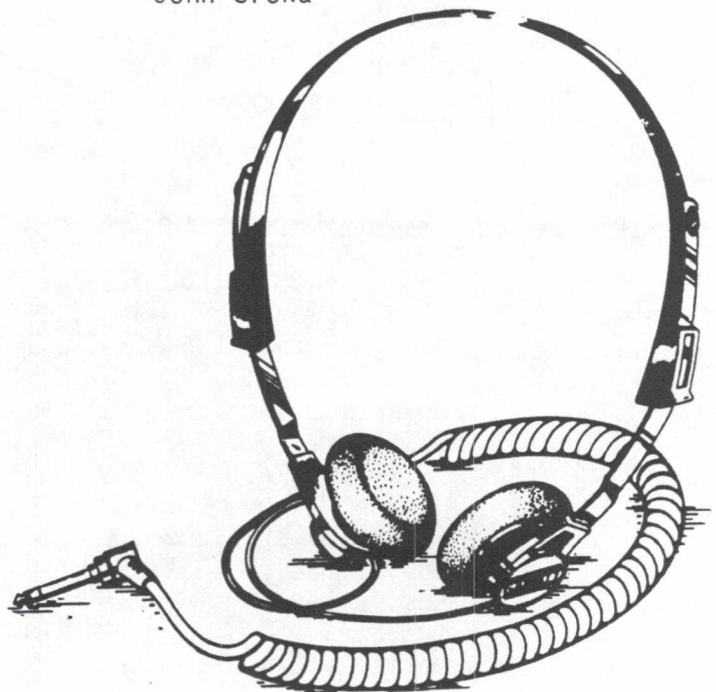
The second objective could be accomplished by the club in the following ways:

1. We could give information about any and all tokens to those who are writing books on the subject. My reasoning is; if a new collector cannot get accurate information needed to make wise choices they will shy-away from our hobby.

2. As a club we have talked about putting together a simple town list that would be inexpensive and generally informative to the beginning collector. We still need to do this to bridge the gap for those who would like to start collecting tokens but find the expense of "Campbell's Tokens of Utah" prohibitive.
3. We need to continue to have informative and interesting articles in our TOKEN HUNTER.

As a club we need to find ways to help those would-be token collectors take the plunge and buy those first few tokens. We need to find ways to keep the interest high for all of us. We should talk about what makes that new piece worth the time, energy, and cost.

-John Sroka



GLEN'S CORNER

By Glen Sidwell

Living in a smaller town in Southern, Utah is just a little different than the thirty years I spent in the Salt Lake area. People down **here** in "Utah's Dixie" are very laid back and relaxed. They are very concerned about the areas' growth and keep a pretty close watch as to how the city is being developed. Their growth rate is 10 to 15% every year and with new businesses and people coming in every week, they like to hang some control over what happens.

As far as metal detecting is concerned, I do miss the old part of downtown Salt Lake. The coins and tokens are here but there is not the abundance there is in Salt Lake. Just about every time I have been metal detecting down here I have found some fairly good finds, mainly silver coins.

I have also visited a few of the ghost towns in the area such as Harrisburg, Hebron, Shem, and Goldstrike. By

the way, Goldstrike was just purchased by a large mining company and is going the way Mercur, Utah did. So if you want to detect in the Goldstrike area, you have about one year left to do so. After that you will not be allowed in the area any longer.

Although not much was found in these areas, I am having some luck in Morena, Utah which was a flag stop on the V.P. Railroad. Very few people live there now but I got permission to look around the town with my metal detector. So far I have located a few coins and a token from Washington, Utah which I believe is a pretty good find.

The storekeeper told me that several buildings in town had burned down years ago and that Morena was quite a busy place at one time. He said to look all I wanted and I think I will because there is quite a lot of bare ground to cover.

When in St. George look me up and we will go out and do some detecting in the area.

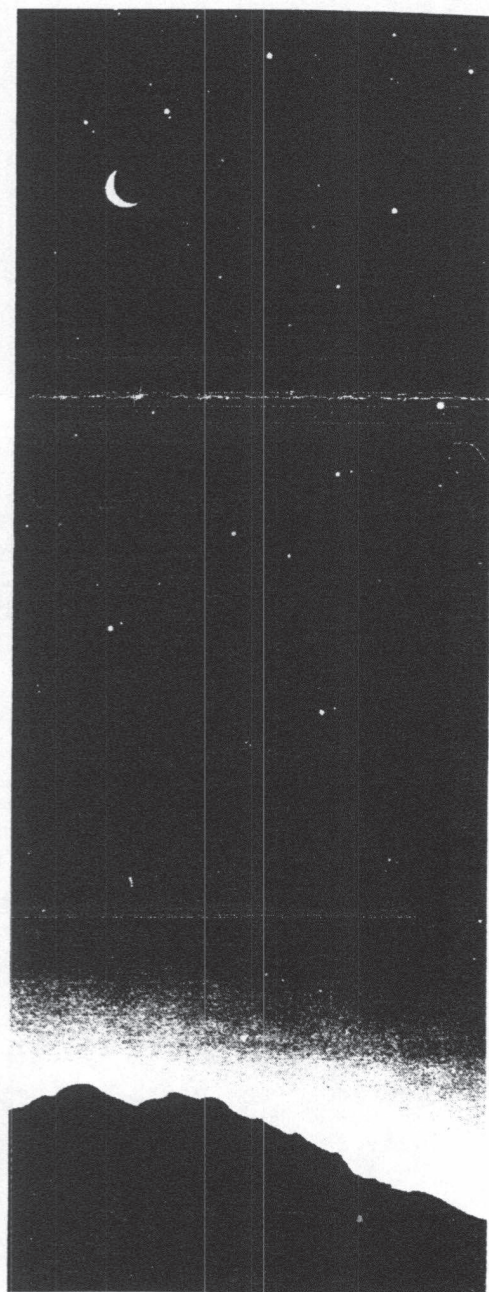
--OUTING NEWS--

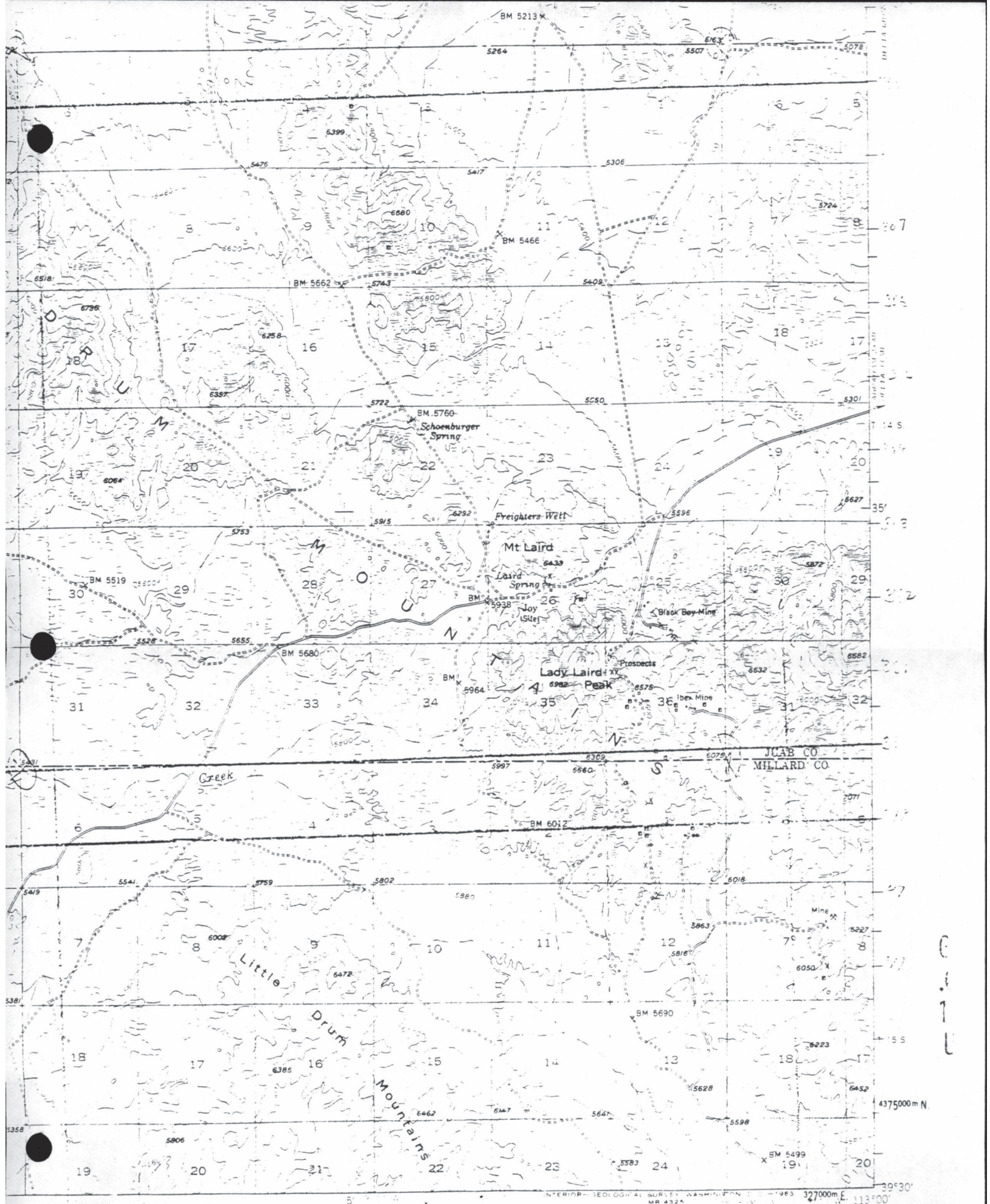
By Eric Jameson

The Labor Day trip to Joy was a bit unusual in that it ended up as a trip to Frisco. The Sidwells, Turpelas, Nuttings, and Moultons all took off for Joy the Friday before Labor Day, leaving the Wagonmaster Jameson to leave at the usual 8:30 Saturday time all by his lonesome self. As Eric was pulling in, the others who spent the night with the snakes were pulling out for Frisco. The only thing found in Joy was a poster for Hostess Cupcakes. Its age can be judged from the fact that it was 2 cupcakes for 5\$.

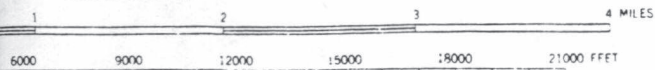
In Frisco, Glen Sidwell found an 1857 dime and John Nutting found an M.J. Taylor token and an 1885 Indian head penny.

For those wishing to go to Joy, take the IPP Power Plant road south of Lindell toward the Topaz mountains. About 20 miles farther on, you will pass a mountain range on your left. Joy is in the northern foothills of the range (the Drum Mountains) take the road to your left where the paved road intersects a graded road coming from the right and continue left into the mountains. The main ruins are to the southeast of Joy at the Black Boy Mine.





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CLUB FORUM

This letter is being written regarding my reasons for liking the Saloon Token.

First, I think some of the fact in the last "President's Page in the Token Hunter written by John Sroka are wrong.

I do not think saloon tokens are quite as common as what was stated. In four years of metal detecting, I have only managed to dig up four Saloon Tokens, and I have probably dug over 10,000 pieces of metal from the ground. A friend in Las Vegas has dug only one saloon token in his metal detecting career.

It is my understanding that out of the twenty to thirty thousand tokens found in the Midvale, Utah hoard, Saloon tokens only amounted to a handful. It is also my understanding that many members of the Token Society have come across hoards of Co-Op tokens now and then. I do not believe I have ever heard of anyone finding a hoard of Saloon Tokens.

As far as your Old West is concerned, I believe you are wrong again. Anytime you would care to visit my grandmother, she would be happy to tell you about Indians in Utah. She was born in 1901 and as a little girl she was afraid of the Indians who camped on her father's farm in Heber Valley, Utah, in teepees no less. The other folks in the valley did not want them on their land because they were still feared by shites. I figured this to be around 1906 to 1910. My other grandmother has a picture of my grandfather with a pair of revolvers at his side wearing buckskins while standing at a bar with a shot glass of whiskey in his hand. He was born in 1900 and I figure the picture was taken around 1917.

I also have a friend whose grandfather witnessed the last gunfight on Main Street in Sandy, Utah. My friend is 38 years old so figure it out, somewhere in the teens I would think.

Here in St. George you will find a restaurant where cowboys were required to leave their guns at the counter before they could sit down to enjoy a meal. This place did not even open until the early 1930's.

The Old West really did last well into the first part of this century, in fact much of Utah had not been seen by white people until the first part of this century. If I remember correctly Rainbow Bridge was never seen by a white until an Indian took him to it. The next time you go to Bullfrog to go waterskiing you will pass by the Henry Mountains, the last mountain range explored and named in the lower 48 states.

As far as Co-op tokens are concerned, you probably have the best collection of them in the state of Utah, and I envy you for that or anyone who specializes in certain types of tokens be it Co-op tokens, Saloon tokens, Territorials, Dairies, Mercantiles, rare towns, or what have you. I myself cannot decide what to specialize in.

One thing is for sure, at least from my point of view and my upbringing in Utah, and I hope I am not stepping on too many toes; the fact is that Co-op tokens have to do with Mormon History and the economy's of Mormon settlements. Ever since childhood you are taught all the great things they have done in the west and I guess after a while a person can get pretty tired of hearing it over and over.

Some of the things you do not hear about are the rough mining towns where there was gambling, robberies, gunfights, and ladies of the niths. It was the infamous Saloon where men made their business deals over a good stiff shot of whiskey or when they were shot and killed when they pulled an ace out of their sleeve.

It is this history of Utah that excites this token collector. Walk into any Utah museum and it is like walking into a morgue. Most everything you see has to do with Mormon history. Do not get me wrong, this history has its place, but there is another side of Utah history that needs to be known also.

(continued on following page.)

Remember it was those dirty, drinking hell raising miners that helped to pull the Mormon church away from the brink of bankruptcy around the time of the mainifesto. It was the hell raisers who frequented those Saloons that bought their food and drygoods from those Mormon settlements. I know because it was my ancestors who helped sustain the miners.

It is these old mining ghost towns where Utah really began to gain its wealth and power and even continued to do so up to the late 1970's. It is these old towns and their people that we must learn more about in order to fill in those missing pages of history. And each time somebody digs up an old saloon token and happens to do a little research and luckily comes up with a little information about that token or the history of the Saloon or proprietors, then we have also learned about a little piece of history that no one has cared to tell us about and this excites me more than anything.

So when it comes to what a person pays for his Saloon token or any other type of token, and that includes Co-op tokens, maybe those extra dollars are well worth the investment. It does not matter what another person thinks of the price you paid and it does not matter what a price book may quote. What does matter is your own personal feeling about making a purchase. If you think it is worth it, and both you and the seller agree as to the purchase price, then so be it.

After all you are not just buying a piece of metal, you are buying a piece of history.

-Glen Sidwell

and 100 miles of pure dirt road from Baker to Fish Springs (arriving with a flat tire and not knowing anyone except Bryon Moulton - I did have help from a gentleman named Eric who had a can of "Fix a Flat. Thanks Eric, it works until you try to patch them, plug only.) Special thanks to Ross and Laura who asked if I needed anything. Ross always seemed to keep the coffee going. May his finger get better after Alunite.

When I first met Bill Turpela, I thought he came off the football field with knee pads. I guess it was for kneeling on rattlesnakes, his best cutter friends.

It was great meeting Harold and Steve Franke, Steve better call A.T. & T. before he digs again. You know call before you dig!!

What a summer seeing Bryan Moulton jump six feet in the air after finding a token in Frisco and do a ten minute dance routine after seeing the word FRISCO on it. You should be a dancer in Vegas.

Happiness was when Sue Turpela found her first Indian Head penny at Alunite. Bill did you really have to find the same year and tell here your's is better! Remember you do not have a Barbara dime yet! Sue does.

At last a special thanks to my friends Glen and Robin Sidwell who got me involved in this special group of NUTS!.

-THE OUTSIDER
John Nutting
Las Vegas, Nevada

FROM A NEW MEMBER

It was a great summer going on digs with the club.

My first outing was a little uncertain after driving 300 miles from Las Vegas,

OUTING MEMORIES!

By Robin Sidwell

Labor Day weekend, for many signals the end of summer. The kids all return to school, the trees begin to change to autumn colors and the weather becomes much more unpredictable.

As I sit writing this - it is the last hours of the long Labor Day weekend and the beginning of fall. Glen and I have just returned from the N.U.T.S. dig and I must say how sorry I was to leave. I am also sorry that more of you were not able to come to the digs this summer. We had a lot of fun, found quite a few coins, tokens, bottles, and assorted stuff. We dined on rattlesnake on occasion, told tales of laughter, sat around many campfires, suffered sunburn, chills, various types of bug bites and even a few minor injuries... all of it a lot of fun!!

I for one am sorry to see the summer end and one of those things I will miss most are the N.U.T.S. outings.

The summer months have been too short and awfully busy for many

N.U.T.S. members. With vacations, yard work, barbeques, and all the other stuff going on in the summer, it is difficult to find the time to do other things. Few N.U.T.S. have been in attendance at the meetings the past months. The Club picnic was not well attended. I hope that the coming months many more of you will be showing up for the meetings.

N.U.T.S. is an organization for its members. It strives to provide activities and information that you are interested in. Its aim is also to provide members the opportunity of meeting people who share the same or similar hobbies.

N.U.T.S. is also an organization of its members. It cannot survive without them. Without you it will cease to exist. Active participation is necessary for N.U.T.S. to continue to be an organization that serves its members.

I hope that we can count on seeing you at the meetings, not just your presence, but your interest and input are vital.

THE MARKETPLACE

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C A L L

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